

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of an epoxidation catalyst, which process comprises impregnating a silicon containing carrier with a gas stream consisting of titanium halide wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel that substantially consists of silicon dioxide and contains, at most: (a) 1200 ppm of sodium, (b) 500 ppm of aluminum, (c) 500 ppm of calcium, (d) 200 ppm of potassium, (e) 100 ppm of magnesium, and (f) 100 ppm of iron, based on amount of carrier.
 2. (Cancelled)
 3. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 21 wherein the gas stream consists of titanium tetrachloride.
 4. (Cancelled)
 5. (Currently Amended) The process of claim 21, further comprising drying the silicon containing carrier before impregnation.
 6. (Original) The process of claim 5, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.
 7. (Original) The process of claim 6, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.
 8. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the gas stream consists of titanium tetrachloride.
 9. (Cancelled)
 10. (Original) The process of claim 1, wherein the silicon containing carrier comprises particles with a weight average particle size of at most 2 mm.
 11. (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising drying the silicon containing carrier before impregnation.
 12. (Original) The process of claim 1, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.
 13. (Original) The process of claim 12, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.
 14. (Original) The process of claim 13 wherein the silylating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.
- Claims 15-20 (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 5 wherein said silicon containing carrier is dried by heating said carrier at a temperature of from 200° C to 700° C for a time ranging from 1 hour to 8 hours.
22. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 21 wherein said temperature ~~if~~ is from 200° C to 300° C.
23. (Cancelled)
24. (Cancelled)
25. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a weight average particle size of from 0.2 mm to 1.8 mm.
26. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 25 wherein said particle size is from 0.4 mm to 1.6 mm.
27. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 26 wherein said particle size is from 0.6 mm to 1.4 mm.
28. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel that has a surface area of at most 1000 m²/gram.
29. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a surface area of at most 800 m²/gram.
30. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a surface area of at most 500 m²/gram.
31. (Cancelled)
32. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 1 wherein said silicon containing carrier has a low water content.
33. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 6 wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica having a low water content and a weight average particle size of at most 2 mm.
34. (Cancelled)
35. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 34 33 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.4 mm to 1.6 mm and a surface area of at most 800 m²/gram.
36. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 35 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.6 mm to 1.4 mm and a surface area of at most 500 m²/gram.
37. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 35 wherein said silica gel has a weight average particle size of from 0.2 mm to 1.8 mm and a surface area of at most 1000 m²/gram.

38. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 34 33 wherein said titanium halide is titanium tetrahalide.

39. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 34 33 further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silylating agent.

40. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 39 wherein the silylating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.

41. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of an epoxidation catalyst, which process comprises impregnating a silicon containing carrier with a gas stream comprising at least 80 %wt of titanium halide wherein said silicon containing carrier is a silica gel that substantially consists of silicon dioxide and contains, at most: (a) 1200 ppm of sodium, (b) 500 ppm of aluminum, (c) 500 ppm of calcium, (d) 200 ppm of potassium, (e) 100 ppm of magnesium, and (f) 100 ppm of iron, based on amount of carrier.

42. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 41, wherein the gas stream comprises at least 90 %wt of titanium halide.

43. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 42, wherein the gas stream comprises at least 95 %wt of titanium halide.

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Currently Amended) The process of Claim 44 41, wherein said titanium halide is titanium tetrachloride.

46. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 45, further comprising calcining and subsequently hydrolyzing the impregnated carrier to produce a calcined and hydrolyzed carrier.

47. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 46, further comprising contacting the hydrolyzed carrier with a silating agent.

48. (Previously Presented) The process of Claim 47, wherein the silating agent comprises hexamethyldisilazane.